

In earlier days the harbor presented a very busy aspect at a time when considerable shipping was carried on and when many sailing craft sought shelter screened from the stormy billows of the lake.

Notwithstanding the frequent changes of passing years, especially as regards the ship-building industry, the reputation of Oakville is well sustained by Captain J. Andrew, who as designer and builder of the famous Canada Cup defenders, namely the Canada and the Invader, has also built other well known yachts such as the Minota, the Beaver and the Strathcona, the latter one of which made such a gallant attempt as the defender in the Canada Cup races last year.



Launching the Yacht Strathcona.

To have been the builder of five boats as above named, all of which have sailed at various periods in international races and to have been successful with two of them as prize winner is a feat highly creditable to Captain Andrew and reflecting much renown on the place of his abode. The chief entrance into Oakville is via the Grand Trunk Railway which affords a cheap and rapid transit to or from East and West.

From the station into town the distance is about a mile, a bus meeting the arrival and departure of all passenger trains. Whilst passing the observer will be impressed with the delightful scenery all along the route, and the home-like, substantial appearance of the many fine residences to be seen. A pleasing feature are the numerous fruit and flower gardens surrounding the various homes. The roads too, are especially good and the walks chiefly of granolithic attest the spirit of local enterprise.

As one moves about the residential parts the first formed impression is strengthened and upon closer acquaintance the more attaches you become to the old town and its people. Oakville and vicinity have long been famous as the centre of strawberries, that delicious fruit which commands the readiest sale and the best price if branded and called "Oakville strawberries." Beside strawberries, this section of Ontario grows in abundance raspberries, cherries, currants and apples. Of the first named fruit as much as four thousand quarts have been sent in one shipment per steamer to Toronto. One of the interesting sights during the picking season is the presence of vast numbers of Indians, white boys and girls engaged gathering fruit for the ever ready market.